



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona State Legislature

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arizona Legislature Hosts Naturalization Ceremony for Active Duty Military Members and Military Spouses

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – The Arizona Legislature today hosted a naturalization ceremony for active duty members of the U.S. military and military spouses.

“While many of us were blessed enough to be born U.S. citizens, today we honored those who have truly earned citizenship: active duty members of the military,” said Speaker of the House J.D. Mesnard (R-17). **“Their courage and sacrifice have demonstrated their commitment to the principles that make the United States so special.”**

“These men and women are inspiring,” said Senate President Steve Yarbrough (R-17). **“They’ve served our country, and now they’ve become citizens of this great nation. It was an honor to recognize them on this special day.”**

“There’s no braver way to demonstrate one’s dedication to American ideals than volunteering to serve in the United States Armed Forces,” said House Majority Whip Kelly Townsend (R-16), who initiated the event and was an Aviation Structural Mechanic in the U.S. Navy. **“We’re fortunate to welcome these individuals as new U.S. citizens. Thanks to everyone who made this naturalization ceremony such a moving event.”**

“It is a privilege to welcome those who serve our country bravely as new citizens,” said Representative Diego Espinoza (D-19), who helped organize the ceremony. **“Our democracy is strengthened by the commitment and dedication of the men and women who choose to make America their home. It is an honor to be part of this ceremony.”**

During the ceremony on the House floor today, five members of the U.S. military and four military spouses were sworn in as U.S. citizens. The nine applicants come from eight different

countries of origin and represent the Army National Guard, the Navy, the Marine Corps, and the Air Force.

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CONTACT:

Matthew Specht
Director of Communications
House Majority Staff
602-926-5518
mspecht@azleg.gov